

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Sixteenth Suffolk Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Sixteenth Suffolk Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 2.2% (2,648) reside in the Sixteenth Suffolk Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (503) of Sixteenth Suffolk Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 73.3% of admissions from the Sixteenth Suffolk Representative District were male and 26.7% were female.
- Over 61.9% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
- 76.5% of admissions were white non-Latino, 4.8% were black non-Latino, 14.6% were Latino, 0.7% were Asians, and 3.1% were other racial categories.
- 66.3% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 14.2% were married, and 12.6% reported not to be married now.
- 30.2% of admissions had less than high school education, 51.5% completed high school, and 18.2% had more than high school education.
- 26.3% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 11.1% of those admitted were homeless.
- 12.3% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

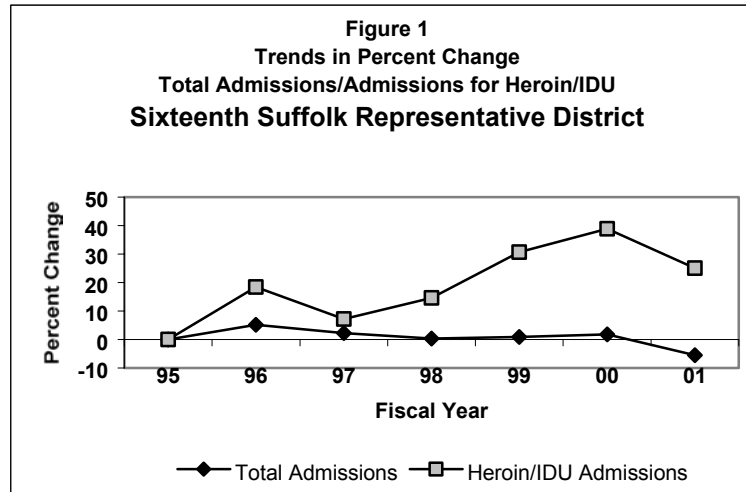
- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Sixteenth Suffolk Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001 Sixteenth Suffolk Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	2,803	2,074	816	1,017	637	1,070	704
FY '96	2,947	2,048	859	989	663	1,280	820
FY '97	2,865	2,084	854	844	451	1,124	777
FY '98	2,813	1,966	744	799	401	1,207	826
FY '99	2,827	1,967	715	821	335	1,353	966
FY '00	2,853	1,835	692	783	264	1,414	1,049
FY '01	2,648	1,669	637	730	237	1,329	890

- Since FY 1995, residents of Sixteenth Suffolk Representative District reported an increase in heroin use, but a decrease in all other drug categories.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting heroin use increased by 24%, while alcohol use decreased by 19%, marijuana by 22%, cocaine by 28%, and crack use by 62%.

Heroin and Injection Drug Use:

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Sixteenth Suffolk Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV¹.



- Total treatment admission for all modalities fell 5.5% between FY 1995 and FY 2001. During the same period, admissions for heroin and injection drug use treatment increased by 25%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Sixteenth Suffolk Representative District.

	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	35.2 %	44.6%	5.3%	4.3%	1.7%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While alcohol, marijuana and crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, heroin and cocaine was higher within your District.

¹ The Schneider Institute for Health Policy, Brandeis University, 2000